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# **Summary**

The invention involves a kind of sperm sorting and embryo sex identification as the basis for sex control in livestock. It includes sperm separation and freezing preservation techniques, production of sexed embryos and identification of gender. It also includes collection of "fresh" ejaculate, preparation of samples before undergoing separation, handling of the separation and freezing procedures. In addition, it includes production of sexed embryos (in vivo or in vitro), identification of genders, cutting/slicing of embryos and PCR method for sex identification of embryo.

The invention has the following merit/advantages:

- a) Accuracy of sex separation of 90%.
- b) Sperm motility is >50%
- c) Accuracy of sex determination technique is 100%.

# Intellectual Property Rights

The invention involves a kind of sperm sorting and embryo sex identification as the basis for sex control in livestock, with uniqueness lying in the following steps:

- 1) Sperm separation and freezing preservation:
- a) Obtain 1 ml of fresh sperm from livestock.
- b) Use phosphoric acid buffer PBS-0.05% PVP centrifuge, 2,000 rotations for 5 minutes and wash twice.
- Use above mentioned buffer to adjust density to  $100x10^6/ml$ , then put the fluid in a cell separation equipment, using 3,000 sperms/sec speed to commence separation. Upon collection of the separated X and Y sperms, approximately 2-2.5 M sperms are put into each 0.25 ml straw which are then frozen. The straws are frozen in liquid nitrogen. 1 ml of fresh ejaculate can produce 10-15 straws each of X and Y sperms.
- d) To produce the sexed embryos, use the separated sperms and 200 ova to undergo in vivo fertilization to produce 25-30 sexed embryos of A-B quality, the embryos are then frozen for embryo transplant.

- 2) <u>Identification of gender of sexed embryos</u>
- a) Use the above mentioned embryos.
- b) Cut/slice open the embryo cell, obtain the thawed embryo, using the phosphoric acid buffer, add 0.25% protease for 2-3 minutes to soften the transparent cover of the embryo, followed by 0.3% of blood serum protein solution, handling 20-40 embryos each time.
- c) Under the microscope, use metal or glass blade to cut off 10-15 embryo nutrition/nourishment cells and assign parallel serial numbers to the cells that were cut off, the main section of the embryo and the "internal" embryo cells. Put the main section of the embryo into a preserving liquid TCM 119-10%FBS and maintain it in a CO<sub>2</sub> unit for 2-4 hrs.
- d) Using a in vitro DNA PCR technique to determine gender, put sliced embryo cells into a 10 "pure" water micro liter container, rinsing very quickly in water 3 times, handling it in a 100 deg. C bath for 10 minutes. Put 1 micro liter into the PCR, using BOV97 as male probe, using α-milk protein as female specimen probe as the composition of PCR responding liquid; 200 micro units of nucleic acid, 40 micro units each of male and female specimen probe plate, with 1.25 international units of DNA polymerization, using water to adjust PCR buffer to 50 micro liters.

PCR operating conditions are: 95 deg. C for 1 min., 55 deg. C for 2 min. and 72 deg. C for 3 min., repeat above method 40 times. The sample is then subjected to 3% "sugar liquid" and electrical pulse for 20 min. The male embryo will have 157bp and 109bp twin zones (peaks) and the female as only 109bp zone. The no zone samples are errors to be discarded.

The basis for the sperm separation, embryo sex identification is the fluorescent dye Hoechst 33342.

# The Use of Sperm Sorting and Embryo Sex Identification as the Basis for Sex Control in Livestock

# **Description of Technology**

This invention is a sex control method using sperm sorting and embryo sex identification as the basis of sex control in livestock.

# Historical / Background Technology

The sex of mammals are determined by X or Y sperms during the fertilization process. X sperm and ovum will produce a female and the Y sperm will produce a male. Under the normal conception process, the amount of X sperms and Y sperms are more or less in equal ratios. Hence, the chance of having a female is about 50%. If we can separate the X from the Y sperms, we can then produce the sex we want based on production requirements. For example, beef cattle producers will want male calves whereas dairy producers will want female calves.

Since the 1960s when artificial insemination was invented and the 1970s when embryo transfer was made possible, many researchers have started investigational work on sperm sorting and determination of the sex of embryos. The work done on sperm separation is based on differences between the X and Y sperms, such as weight, electric charge on the surface, pH, and other methods. However, these methods did not succeed mainly because of the lack of differences between X and Y sperms in the above properties and the harm made to the sperms during the separation process. No successful progress was made till the 1990s.

# Contents of the Invention

The invention uses the difference between the DNA content of X and the Y sperm as the basis for separation using cytometry. The accuracy rate is above 90%. The survival rate of the sperms during artificial insemination is 50% which has reached the production standard. The accuracy of determining the sex of the embryo is 100%.

The invention is made of the following steps:

- 1) Sperm separation and freezing preservation:
- e) Obtain 1 ml of fresh sperm from livestock.
- f) Use phosphoric acid buffer PBS-0.05% PVP centrifuge, 2000 rotations for 5 minutes and wash twice.
- g) Use above mentioned buffer to adjust density to 100x106/ml, then put the fluid in a cell separation equipment, using 3000 sperms/sec speed to commence separation. Upon collection of the separated X and Y sperms, approximately 2-2.5M sperms are put into each 0.25 ml straw which are then frozen. The straws

- are frozen in liquid nitrogen. 1 ml of fresh ejaculate can produce 10-15 straws each of X and Y sperms.
- h) To produce the sexed embryos, use the separated sperms and 200 ova to undergo in vivo fertilization to produce 25-30 sexed embryos of A-B quality, the embryos are then frozen for embryo transplant.
- 2) Identification of gender of sexed embryos
- e) Use the above mentioned embryos.
- f) Cut/slice open the embryo cell, obtain the thawed embryo, using the phosphoric acid buffer, add 0.25% protease for 2-3 minutes to soften the transparent cover of the embryo, followed by 0.3% of blood serum protein solution, handling 20-40 embryos each time.
- g) Under the microscope, use metal or glass blade to cut off 10-15 embryo nutrition/nourishment cells and assign parallel serial numbers to the cells that were cut off, the main section of the embryo and the "internal" embryo cells. Put the main section of the embryo into a preserving liquid TCM119-10%FBS and maintain it in a CO<sub>2</sub> unit for 2-4 hrs.
- h) Using a in vitro DNA PCR technique to determine gender, put sliced embryo cells into a 10 "pure" water micro liter container, rinsing very quickly in water 3 times, handling it in a 100 deg. C bath for 10 minutes. Put 1 micro liter into the PCR, using BOV97 as male probe, using α-milk protein as female specimen probe as the composition of PCR responding liquid; 200 micro units of nucleic acid, 40 micro units each of male and female specimen probe plate, with 1.25 international units of DNA polymerization, using water to adjust PCR buffer to 50 micro liters.

PCR operating conditions are: 95 deg. C for 1 min., 55 deg. C for 2 min. and 72 deg. C for 3 min., repeat above method 40 times. The sample is then subjected to 3% "sugar liquid" and electrical pulse for 20 min. The male embryo will have 157bp and 109bp twin zones (peaks) and the female as only 109bp zone. The no zone samples are errors to be discarded.

The basis for the sperm separation, embryo sex identification is the fluorescent dye Hoechst 33342.

The invention has the following advantages:

- d) Accuracy of sex separation of 90%.
- e) Sperm motility (vigor) is >50%
- f) Accuracy of sex determination technique is 100%.

Accompanying the description of the patent are the following diagrams:

Diagram 1 (page 10 of the original document): Flow Diagram of the Methodology This is basically a flow chart of the various steps in the sperm separation process, freezing method and identification of the sex of the embryo via the PCR method.

Diagram 2 (page 11): Diagrams of PCR method used to identify the sex of the embryo.

Diagram 3 (page 12): Results of the invention after the PCR method.

The next 2 pages is the same description of the methodology again

An analysis and determination of the accuracy of the results of the experiment was conducted.

# 1. Accuracy of Sperm Separation

Sample size of experiment: 2,000 sperms

X sperm sample (fluorescent light) X sperms 93.6% Y sperms 6.4% Y sperm sample (fluorescent light) Y sperms 81.8% X sperms 18.2%

# 2. Embryos Produced Using the Sexed Semen

Y sperm samples: 10

Males 8/ Females 2 Accuracy 80%

# 3. Production of Sexed Embryos and Determination of Sex (Using PCR Method)

Y sperm sample: In vivo fertilization produced 197 embryos of which 62 were

fertilized (26.3%), 86% male

Y sperm sample: In vivo fertilization produced 235 embryos of which 79 were

fertilized (36.6%), 91% male

### 4. Accuracy of the PCR Method

46 sexed embryos were used in the experiment of which 24 (52.1%) were male. The embryos were transferred to donor cows (conception rates 62.5%). 15 calves were born of which all were male (100%).

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[54] 发明名称 以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础 的家畜性别控制方法

# [57] 摘要

本发明涉及一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法,包括精子分离和冷冻保存,生产性别控制胚胎和胚胎性别鉴定步骤,其中精子分离和冷冻保存包括采集新鲜精液、分离前的精子处理、精子分离处理、冷冻保存;生产性别控制胚胎和胚胎性别鉴定步骤包括胚胎生产(体内或试管技术)、胚胎切割、PCR 法鉴定胚胎性别。本发明具有以下优点:分离精子的准确率达90%以上,精子活力保持在50%以上,胚胎的性别鉴定准确率约为100%。

施子分高和內法保存

1、采集新學精液

2、分高前的精子处理

3、菓子分离处理

4、內法保存

- 1、一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法, 其特征在于:包括以下步骤:
  - (1) 精子分离和冷冻保存:

A、从家畜体中采取新鲜精液 1 毫升,用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP 离心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟,然后用所述的磷酸缓冲液把精子浓 度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup>个/毫升,每毫升新鲜精液可调制 10-15 毫升上述浓 度的稀释精液;

- B、在精液中添加 10 微克/毫升荧光染色剂,在 37°C 的条件下 DNA 染色 30 分钟,然后用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP 离心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟;
- C、重新把精子浓度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup>个/毫升,然后装入流式细胞分离机内,以每秒钟 3000 个精子的速度进行分离,分开后的 X 精子和 Y 精子被回收后,按照每支 250-500 万个精子的总数,装入 0.25 毫升精液冷冻管,制成冷冻精液,保存于液化氮内,1毫升新鲜家畜精液生产上述分离后的 X 精子或 Y 精子的冷冻精液各 10-15 支;
- D、生产性别控制胚胎: 把分离后的精子以每支 200 个卵子的比例进行体外受精和培养,生产 25-30 个经过性别控制的 A-B 等级胚胎,冷冻保存,用于胚胎移植;
  - (2) 胚胎性别鉴定:
  - A、使用上述的冷冻胚胎;
- B、胚胎细胞的切割:取解冻后的胚胎在所述的磷酸缓冲液加0.25%的蛋白酶中处理2-3分钟,使胚胎的透明带软化,然后移入所述的磷酸缓冲液加0.3%的血清蛋白溶液中,每次处理胚胎数20-40个左右:
- C、在显微镜下,用金属刀片或玻璃细针切下胚胎的营养层细胞 10-15 个,把切下的细胞和胚胎的主要部分,包括内胚团细胞,分

别对应编号, 胚胎的主要部分放入胚胎保存液 TCM199-10%FBS 中, 在 CO<sub>2</sub> 培养箱中保留 2-4 小时;

D、 以一种 DNA 体外合成技术 PCR 法对切下的细胞进行雌、雄性别鉴定,切取的每个胚胎细胞样品移入 10 微升纯水的 PCR 反应管中,水中快速清洗 3 次,以 100℃的水浴处理 10 分钟,然后取 1 微升进行 PCR 反应,以 BOV97M 为雄性探针,以α-乳清蛋白基因片段为雌性样品探针;

PCR 反应液的组成: 200 微摩尔的脱氧核苷酸、各 40 微摩尔的 雄性和雌性样品探针模板、1.25 国际单位的 DNA 聚合酶、PCR 缓冲 液,用纯水将总液量调至 50 微升;

PCR 反应的条件: 95℃ 1分钟、55℃ 2分钟 、 72℃ 3分钟,上述条件重复 40次:

PCR 反应样品检查:取反应后的每个样品以 3%的琼脂糖电泳 20 分钟, 具有 157bp,109bp 双带的胚胎为雌性, 只有 109bp 带的胚胎为雌性, 没有带的为样品操作失误或丢失。

2、根据权利要求 1 所述的一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法,其特征在于: 所说的荧光染色剂为 Hoechst 33342。

# 以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法

# 技术领域

本发明属于一种家畜性别控制方法,特别涉及一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法。

# 背景技术

哺乳动物(含家畜)的性别由受精时精液中的 X 和 Y 精子来决定。X 精子和卵子结合产生母性个体, Y 精子则导致雄性个体的发生。在正常家畜精液中由于 X 精子和 Y 精子的比例相当,因此产生后代中的雌雄约各占 50%。对于实际产业经营来说,如果能够把 X 精子和 Y 精子分开,就可以根据生产需要选择家畜的性别,比如肉牛繁殖者要求尽可能提高雄性牛犊的出生率,而奶牛经营者则认为多生母牛犊可以获取更大的经济效益。

自从上世纪六十年代人工授精技术的普及应用,以及七十年代开始的胚胎移植技术的尝试,众多研究人员开始进行精子分离和胚胎性别鉴定的研究探讨。精子分离的基础是利用 X 精子和 Y 精子之间的理化、生理、遗传基因等方面的差异,比如重量、表面电荷、PH 值以及抗原性等来设计各种实验模型,其中包括沉淀法、密度梯度离心法、电泳法、抗原抗体法等。但是上述诸方法由于分离精子的准确率差或者完全没有效果,对精子活力的损害等原因,到上世纪九十年代基本上被大多数研究人员的实验结果所否定,因此也就无法作为一项实用技术应用到生产实践。另外,胚胎的性别鉴定也是类似情况。

# 发明内容

本发明的目的是提供一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法,它克服了上述的缺陷,以 X 精子和 Y 精子 DNA 含量的微小差别为基础的流式细胞分离法的准确率为 90%,以人工授精

为主的精子活力为 50%, 达到了产业应用水平; 以 Y 精子特异性 DNA 片断为主的胚胎性别鉴定技术准确率接近 100%。

本发明以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法, 包括以下步骤:

# (1) 精子分离和冷冻保存

- A、 从家畜体中采取新鲜精液 1 毫升,用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP,离心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟,然后用所述的磷酸缓冲液把精子浓度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup> 个/毫升,每毫升新鲜精液可调制 10-15 毫升上述浓度的稀释精液。
- B、 在精液中添加 10 徽克/毫升荧光染色剂,在 37℃的条件下 DNA 染色 30 分钟,然后用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP,离心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟;
- C、 重新把精子浓度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup> 个/毫升,然后装入流式细胞 分离机内,以每秒钟 3000 个精子的速度进行分离,分开后的 X 精子 和 Y 精子被回收后,按照每支 250~500 万个精子的总数,装入 0.25 毫升精液冷冻管,按照常规方法制成冷冻精液,保存于液化氮内,1 毫升新鲜精液可以生产上述分离后的 X 精子或 Y 精子的冷冻精液各 10-15 支;
- D、 生产性别控制胚胎: 把分离后的精子以每支 200 个卵子的比例进行体外授精和培养,可以生产 25-30 个经过性别控制的 A-B 等级胚胎(囊胚),用于胚胎移植;
  - (2)、胚胎性别鉴定:
  - A、以使用冷冻胚胎为主:
- B、 胚胎细胞切割: 取解冻后的囊胚, 在所述的磷酸缓冲液加 0.25%的蛋白酶中处理 2-3 分钟, 使胚胎的透明带软化, 然后移入所述的磷酸缓冲液加 0.3%的血清蛋白溶液中, 每次处理胚胎数 20-40 个左右:

- C、 在显微镜下,用刀端呈 15° 角,胚胎切割专用的金属刀片,或玻璃细针切下胚胎的营养层细胞 10-15 个,把切下的细胞和胚胎的主要部分,包括内胚团细胞,分别对应编号,胚胎的主要部分放入胚胎保存液 TCM199-10%FBS 中,在 CO<sub>2</sub> 培养箱中保留 2-4 小时;
- D、以一种 DNA 体外合成技术 PCR 法对切下的细胞进行雌、雄性别鉴定,切取的每个胚胎细胞样品移入 10 微升纯水的 PCR 反应管中,水中快速清洗 3 次,以 100℃的水浴处理 10 分钟,然后取 1 微升进行 PCR 反应,以 BOV97M(157bp,一种雄性牛的 Y 染色体的特异性基因断片)为雄性探针,以 α-乳清蛋白基因片段(109bp)为雌性样品探针;

PCR 反应液的组成: 200 微摩尔的脱氧核苷酸、各 40 微摩尔的 雄性和雌性样品探针模板、1.25 国际单位的 DNA 聚合酶(1.25 Iu Taq 聚合酶)、PCR 缓冲液,用纯水将总液量调至 50 微升;

PCR 反应的条件: 95℃ 1分钟、55℃ 2分钟 、 72℃ 3分钟,上述条件重复 40次:

PCR 反应样品检查:取反应后的每个样品,以 3%的琼脂糖电泳 20 分钟,具有 157bp,109bp 双带的胚胎为雌性,只有 109bp 带的胚胎为雌性,没有带的为样品操作失误或丢失。

根据 PCR 的检查结果,就可以确定对应胚胎的性别,然后根据 需要把胚胎进行移植或冷冻保存。此技术过程约需 2-3 小时,样品的 处理可以重叠进行,胚胎的性别鉴定准确率约为 100%。

所说的荧光染色剂为 Hoechst 33342。

本发明具有以下优点:分离精子的准确率达 90%以上,精子活力保持在 50%以上,胚胎的性别鉴定准确率约为 100%。 附图说明:

附图 1 是本发明工艺方法流程图。

附圍 2 是胚胎切割模型图和胚胎实际切割图。

附圖 3 是本发明染色体检查磷认 PCR 结果图。

# 具体实施方式:

如图所示:一种以精子分离、胚胎性别鉴定为基础的家畜性别控制方法,包括以下步骤:

- (1) 精子分离和冷冻保存:
- A、从正常种公牛采取新鲜精液 1 亳升,用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP,离心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟,然后用所述的磷酸缓冲液把精子浓度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup>个/亳升,每亳升新鲜精液可调制 10-15 亳升上述浓度的稀释精液;
- B、 在精子液中添加 10 微克/毫升荧光染色剂 Hoechst 33342,在 37℃的条件下 DNA 染色 30 分钟,然后用磷酸缓冲液 PBS-0.05%PVP 高心洗涤 2 次,2000 转,5 分钟;
- C、 重新把精子浓度调至 100×10<sup>6</sup>个/毫升,然后装入流式细胞分离机内,以每秒钟 3000 个精子的速度进行分离,分开后的 X 精子带正电和 Y 精子带负电分别被回收后,按照每支 250~500 万个精子的总数,装入 0.25 毫升精液冷冻管,按照常规方法制成冷冻精液,保存于液化氯内,1 毫升新鲜精液可以生产上述分离后的 X 精子或 Y 精子的冷冻精液各 10-15 支:
- D、 生产性别控制胚胎:由于胚胎的性别由受精时的精子型决定,因此利用分离后的 X 精子或 Y 精子直接生产试管胚胎,扩大分离精子的使用效率,具体方法是把分离后的精子以每支 200 个卵子的比例进行体外受精和培养,可以生产 25-30 个经过性别控制的 A-B 等级胚胎(囊胚),冷冻保存,用于胚胎移植;
  - (2)、胚胎性别鉴定:
  - A、 胚胎性别鉴定以使用冷冻胚胎为主:
- B、 胚胎细胞切割: 取解冻后的囊胚在所述的磷酸缓冲液加 0.25%的蛋白酶中处理 2-3 分钟。使胚胎的遗明带软化,然后移入所 述的磷酸缓冲液加 0.3%的血清蛋白溶液中,每次处理胚胎数 20-40

# 个左右:

- C、 在显微镜下,用刀端呈 15° 角,胚胎切割专用的金属刀片 切下胚胎的营养层细胞 10-15 个,把切下的细胞和胚胎的主要部分,包括内胚团细胞,分别对应编号,胚胎的主要部分放入胚胎保存液 TCM199-10%FBS 中,在 CO<sub>2</sub> 培养箱中保留 2-4 小时;
- D、 以一种 DNA 体外合成技术 PCR 法对切下的细胞进行雌、 雄性别鉴定,切取的每个胚胎细胞样品移入 10 微升纯水的 PCR 反应 管中,水中快速清洗 3 次,以 100℃的水浴处理 10 分钟,然后取 1 微升进行 PCR 反应;以 BOV97M(157bp,一种雄性牛的 Y 染色体 的特异性基因断片)为雄性探针,以 α-乳清蛋白基因片段(109bp) 为雌性棒品探针;

PCR 反应液的组成: 200 衡摩尔的脱氧核苷酸、各 40 微摩尔的 雄性和雌性样品探针模板、1.25 国际单位的 DNA 聚合酶、PCR 缓冲 液,用纯水将总液量调至 50 微升:

PCR 反应的条件: 95℃ 1分钟、55℃ 2分钟 、 72℃ 3 分钟, 上途条件重复 40 次;

PCR 反应样品检查:取反应后的每个样品,以 3%的琼脂糖电泳 20 分钟,具有 157bp,109bp 双带的胚胎为雄性,只有 109bp 带的胚胎为雌性,没有带的为样品操作失误或丢失。

根据 PCR 的检查结果,就可以确定对应胚胎的性别,然后根据 需要把胚胎进行移植或冷冻保存。此技术过程约需 2-3 小时,样品的处理可以重叠进行,胚胎的性别鉴定准确率约为 100%。 检测结果:

本技术在实验室和产业中试水平上均进行了具体实施,并对其结果进行了不同层次的检测,具体方法和结果如下:(参见图3)

- 1、分离精子的准确率和受精性:
- (1) 分离精子的准确率检查(原位分子杂交法)

检查精子总数: 2000 个

X 精子样品(强荧光) X 精子 93.6% Y 精子 6.4%

Y 精子样品 (弱荧光) Y 精子 81.8% X 精子 18.2%

(2) 利用分离精子受精后的产犊检查(显微受精胚胎)

Y 精子样品 10 头 雄性 8 头/雌性 2 头 准确率 80.0%

(3) 性别控制胚胎的生产和鉴定(PCR 法检查)

Y 精子样品: 体外受精处理卵子 187 个, 得到 A-B 囊胚 62 个 (26.3%), 其中雄性胚胎占 86%

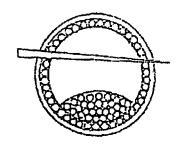
X 精子样品: 体外受精处理卵子 235 个, 得到 A-B 囊胚 79 个 (36.6%), 其中雌性胚胎占 91%

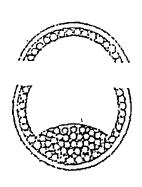
2、性别鉴定胚胎的准确率检查:

检查胚胎数 46 个, 其中雄性胚 24 个 (52.1%), 这些胚胎移植后 产转总数 15 头(受胎率 62.5%): 雄性 15 头(100%), 雌性 0 头(0%)。

# 精子分离和冷冻保存 胚胎性别鉴定 1、采集新鲜精液 1、胚胎生产(体内或试管技术) 2、分离前的精子处理 2、胚胎切割 3、精子分离处理 3、PCR 法鉴定胚胎性别 4、冷冻保存

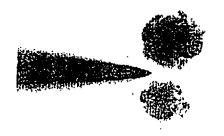
图 1





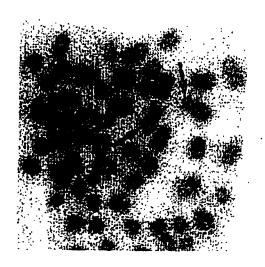
胚胎切割模型





胚胎实际切割

图 2





XX 雌性

XY 雄性

染色体检查确认 PCR 的结果

图 3